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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A method of administering a transfer of electronic data to a data storage device, the method comprising:

coupling a first computer to a second computer through a network;
administering the transfer of electronic data to the data storage device; and
transferring an electronic message from the first computer to indicate that the transfer of electronic data is complete;

transmitting an electronic signal recognizable by the second computer from the first computer to the second computer to operatively couple the first and second computers; and terminating the transfer of electronic data and decoupling the first and second computers, if the electronic signal is not recognized.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the network includes the Internet.

14-15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 or 12, further comprising recording the termination of the transfer of electronic data and the decoupling of the first and second computers.

17. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the data storage device is an automatic transfer library operatively coupled to the second computer.

18. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the automatic transfer library is operatively coupled to the first computer.

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19. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising identifying a problem in the transfer of electronic data.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising remotely repairing the problem.

21. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising notifying a local administrator to repair the problem.

22. (new) A method of remotely monitoring a data back-up process associated with a first computer and a storage device operatively coupled to the first computer, the method comprising:

receiving an electronic message at a second computer sent over a network by the first computer, wherein the second computer is located remotely from the first computer and the storage device, and the message indicates that the first computer is prepared to start a data back-up process;

sending an electronic message from the second computer to the first computer to instruct the first computer to start the data back-up process;

using the second computer, monitoring over the network the data back-up process being performed by the first computer; and

sending a message from the second computer indicating a status of the data back-up process.

23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein sending a message includes indicating that the data back-up process was not successful.

24. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising sending an electronic message from the second computer to the first computer instructing the first computer to repeat the data back-up process.

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25. (new) The method of claim 23, further comprising sending a message to an administrator of the first computer indicating that the data back-up process was not successful.

26. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein sending a message to an administrator includes sending a message over the network from the second computer to the first computer.

27. (new) A system for remotely monitoring over a network a data back-up process associated with a remote computer and a storage device operatively coupled to the remote computer, the system comprising:

a network computer having a network connection to couple the network computer to a network;

the network computer being programmed to:

receive an electronic message sent over the network by the remote computer, wherein the message indicates that the remote computer is prepared to start a data back-up process;

send an electronic message to the remote computer to instruct the remote computer to start the data back-up process;

monitor the data back-up process being performed by the remote computer; and

send a message indicating a status of the back-up process.

28. (new) The system of claim 27, wherein the network computer is programmed to detect an error in the data back-up process and send a message indicating that the data back-up process was not successful.

29. (new) The system of claim 28, wherein the network computer is further programmed to send an electronic message from the second computer to the first computer instructing the first computer to repeat the data back-up process.

30. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the network computer is further programmed to send an electronic message to the first computer indicating repairs to be performed to correct the error in the back-up process.